

A1 1. A process for presenting interactive program guide information to a user, comprising the steps of:

providing a program guide area;

wherein said program guide area is semi-transparent and overlays a broadcast program that the user is currently watching, allowing the user to see the progress of the broadcast program;

receiving user command input;

displaying a first column in said program guide area;

said first column displays available program channels in a rotating endless channel list;

wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said channel list;

displaying a second column in said program guide area;

said second column displays a program list for a specific channel; and

wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said program list.

Sub B1 A2 18. A process for presenting interactive program guide information to a user, comprising the steps of:

providing a program guide area;

wherein said program guide area is semi-transparent and overlays a broadcast program that the user is currently watching, allowing the user to see the progress of the broadcast program;

receiving user command input;

displaying a first column in said program guide area;

said first column displays channel sorting methods available to the user;

displaying a second column in said program guide area;

said second column displays available program channels in a rotating endless channel list; and

wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said channel list.

19. The process of claim 18, further comprising the step of:

displaying a third column in said program guide area;

said third column displays a program list for a specific channel; and

A2 [wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said program list. *B*

A3 ⁸⁹~~40~~ An apparatus for presenting interactive program guide information to a user, comprising:

a program guide area;

wherein said program guide area is semi-transparent and overlays a broadcast program that the user is currently watching, allowing the user to see the progress of the broadcast program;

a module for receiving user command input;

a module for displaying a first column in said program guide area;

said first column displays available program channels in a rotating endless channel list;

wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said channel list;

a module for displaying a second column in said program guide area;

said second column displays a program list for a specific channel; and

wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said program list.

A4 ⁸⁹~~57~~ 57. An apparatus for presenting interactive program guide information to a user, comprising:

a program guide area;

wherein said program guide area is semi-transparent and overlays a broadcast program that the user is currently watching, allowing the user to see the progress of the broadcast program;

a module for receiving user command input;

a module for displaying a first column in said program guide area;

said first column displays channel sorting methods available to the user;

a module for displaying a second column in said program guide area;

said second column displays available program channels in a rotating endless channel list; and

wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said channel list.

58. The apparatus of claim 57, further comprising:

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~~A4~~ [a module for displaying a third column in said program guide area;
said third column displays a program list for a specific channel; and
wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said program list.

A5 79. A program storage medium readable by a computer, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the computer to perform method steps for presenting interactive program guide information to a user, comprising the steps of:

providing a program guide area;

wherein said program guide area is semi-transparent and overlays a broadcast program that the user is currently watching, allowing the user to see the progress of the broadcast program;

receiving user command input;

displaying a first column in said program guide area;

said first column displays available program channels in a rotating endless channel list;

wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said channel list;

displaying a second column in said program guide area;

said second column displays a program list for a specific channel; and

wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said program list.

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A6 96. A program storage medium readable by a computer, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the computer to perform method steps for presenting interactive program guide information to a user, comprising the steps of:

providing a program guide area;

wherein said program guide area is semi-transparent and overlays a broadcast program that the user is currently watching, allowing the user to see the progress of the broadcast program;

receiving user command input;

displaying a first column in said program guide area;

said first column displays channel sorting methods available to the user;

displaying a second column in said program guide area;

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A4 said second column displays available program channels in a rotating endless channel list; and wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said channel list.

97. The method of claim 96, further comprising the step of:
displaying a third column in said program guide area;
said third column displays a program list for a specific channel; and
wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said program list.
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